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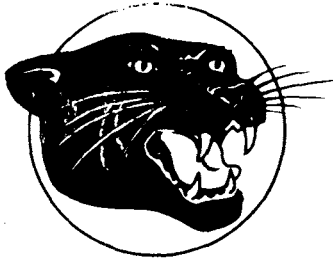
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Panther Sports News

EASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY, Charleston, IL 61920

DAVID KIDWELL, *Sports Information Director*

OFFICE: (217) 581-2920

HOME: (217) 345-4166

Sept. 21, 1982
FB STATE-FB OPP-
LS-AS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CHARLESTON, IL--Eastern Illinois University's Panthers will get their first taste of conference action Saturday (Sept. 25) travelling to Northern Iowa. The Mid-Continent Conference game will kickoff at 7:30 p.m.

EIU will take a perfect 3-0 record into the contest, and four in a row dating back to last year's final game victory over Delaware State.

Northern Iowa, 1-1, lost to Drake in its opener, 40-13, but bounced back to go 1-0 in MCC play with a 10-0 win over Southwest Missouri. The UNI Panthers were idle this past Saturday.

Besides wanting to keep its perfect record intact and notching a league win, Eastern would also like to snap a losing streak at Northern Iowa.

The Panthers have never won in Cedar Falls losing all four games there in a series dating back to just 1975. Northern Iowa has prevailed the past two years in the UNI-Dome by 10-7 and 38-17 scores.

After racking up 314 yards passing last Saturday, Eastern will at least take a more balanced offensive attack into the game. The Panthers are now averaging 204 yards rushing and 171 passing.

"Anytime you get that many yards passing you're doing something right so we're pleased with that part of our offense," said Coach Darrell Mudra, "plus we used eight different receivers. We tested a lot of different routes and found out which ones will work best for us.

"Northern Iowa, however, has had two weeks to prepare for us and with that amount of time to heal their wounds and work against our patterns we will need to be sharp right from the first play.

"The toughest part of our schedule is upon us so we'll find out how much we've progressed during these first three wins," Mudra said.

GAME NOTES

THE SERIES: Northern Iowa leads 4-2. Eastern has lost all four in Cedar Falls, 14-8 in 1975, 31-21 in 1977, 10-7 in the UNI-Dome in 1979 and 38-17 last fall. The Panthers' two wins came in 1978 (38-22) and 1980 (14-9) when current coach Alonzo Lee scored on a fourth quarter pass interception to assure the victory.

LAST WEEK: QB Jeff Christensen threw 22 of 36 for 314 yards and four touchdowns as EIU beat Wayne State 27-0. The Panthers had 449 yards total offense to 276 for WSU. Keith Wojnowski had three QB sacks from his defensive end position.

Northern Iowa was idle after losing to Drake, 40-13, and beating Southwest Missouri, 10-0.

THE COACHES: Darrell Mudra, in his 21st collegiate season and fifth at EIU, is 149-64-2 overall and 39-14 at EIU. He is No. 3 in NCAA I-AA for active coaches with most victories.

UNI's Stan Sheriff, in his 23rd season, all at Northern Iowa, is 126-96-3.

CHRISTENSEN PASSING: QB Jeff Christensen had his fourth best total offense day last week with 333 yards against Wayne State. His 314 yards passing was his 5th best in that department and four TD tosses ties for the second best effort behind Steve Turk's five against Northern Michigan in 1978. Christensen now has 35 career TD passes, just one short of Turk's two year record.

NO FUMBLES: The Panthers' offensive unit still hasn't lost a fumble although the punt return unit gave up one last week. However the turnovers are nearly even as EIU has lost eight and gained nine.

NIXON ALL-PURPOSE: Halfback Wes Nixon is truly an all-purpose runner. The junior half-back has rushed for 184 yards, caught seven passes for 78 yards, returned five kickoffs for 136 yards and returned one punt for 41 yards. He is averaging 146 yards which probably will rank him in the top 15 in NCAA I-AA stats.

RECEIVING: The Panthers have truly used every available wide receiver in their passing game. They have thrown 17 passes to wide receivers (split end and flanker), 13 to backs and seven to tight ends.

SHUTOUT: The 27-0 win over Wayne State was the first shutout since last year's 58-0 pasting of Central State. EIU has four shutouts in the five year Darrell Mudra reign.

MCC THIS WEEK:	Overall W-L	MCC W-L	Points
Eastern Illinois	3-0	0-0	72-31
Western Illinois	1-1	0-0	36-51
Northern Iowa	1-1	1-0	23-40
Southwest Missouri	1-2	0-1	13-34

NEXT WEEK: The Panthers travel to Youngstown State to face the Penguins in their new 16,500 seat Stambaugh Sports Complex. YSU, favored in some national magazines to win the Mid-American Conference, is 1-2. Youngstown travels to Cincinnati Saturday.

1982 EAS AN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY FOOTBALL STATISTICS (3-0)

<u>RUSHING</u>	<u>G</u>	<u>ATT</u>	<u>GAIN</u>	<u>LOST</u>	<u>NET</u>	<u>P/GAME</u>	<u>P/CARRY</u>	<u>TD</u>	<u>LONG</u>
Kevin Staple	3	72	360	29	331	110.3	4.6	3	30(NEMO)
Wes Nixon	3	46	210	26	184	61.3	4.0	1	31(ISU)
Jeff Christensen	3	19	78	29	49	16.3	2.6	1	31(ISU)
Tyrone Davis	1	1	2	-	2	2.0	2.0	-	2(ISU)
Darryon White	3	4	48	-	48	16.0	12.0	-	34(WSU)
EIU TOTALS	3	142	698	84	614	204.7	4.3	5	34(WSU)
OPPONENTS	3	128	483	193	290	96.7	2.3	3	23(NEMO)

<u>PASSING</u>	<u>G</u>	<u>CPL</u>	<u>ATT</u>	<u>INT</u>	<u>YDS</u>	<u>PCT</u>	<u>P/GAME</u>	<u>P/CPL</u>	<u>P/ATT</u>	<u>TD</u>	<u>LONG</u>
Jeff Christensen	3	37	76	7	515	.487	171.2	13.9	6.8	5	52(ISU)
EIU TOTALS	3	37	76	7	515	.487	171.2	13.9	6.8	5	52(ISU)
OPPONENTS	3	45	95	6	612	.474	204.0	13.6	6.4	1	45(ISU)

<u>PASS RECEIVING</u>	<u>G</u>	<u>REC</u>	<u>YDS</u>	<u>P/CATCH</u>	<u>P/GAME</u>	<u>TD</u>	<u>LONG</u>	<u>TEAM TOTALS</u>	<u>EIU</u>	<u>OPP</u>
Roger Holoman	3	8	130	16.3	43.3	-	34(WSU)	First Downs	53	54
Jim Schmidt	3	8	107	13.4	35.6	-	18(WSU)	by rushing	33	16
Wes Nixon	3	7	78	11.1	26.0	1	30(WSU)	by passing	20	31
Kevin Staple	3	4	30	7.5	10.0	-	18(ISU)	by penalty	0	7
Darryon White	3	4	114	28.5	38.0	1	52(ISU)	TOTAL OFFENSE	1129	902
Dirk Androff	3	3	25	8.3	8.3	2	11(WSU)	per game	376.3	300.7
Jerry Wright	3	1	19	19.0	6.3	1	19(WSU)	total plays	218	223
Roy Ellis	1	1	7	7.0	7.0	-	7(WSU)	yds. p/play	5.2	4.0
Tyrone Davis	1	1	5	5.0	5.0	-	5(ISU)	PENALTIES/YDS	18/199	18/144
EIU TOTALS	3	37	515	13.9	171.2	5	52(ISU)	FUMBLES LOST	3/1	5/3
OPPONENTS	3	45	612	13.6	204.0	1	45(ISU)			

<u>PUNTING</u>	<u>G</u>	<u>NO</u>	<u>YDS</u>	<u>AVE</u>	<u>RET</u>	<u>NET</u>	<u>NET AVE</u>	<u>LONG</u>
Don Manzke	3	18	673	37.4	69	604	33.5	50 (ISU)
EIU TOTALS	3	18	673	37.4	69	604	33.5	50 (ISU)
OPPONENTS	3	22	809	36.7	69	740	33.6	66 (WSU)

<u>RETURNS</u>	<u>G</u>	<u>KO</u>	<u>YDS</u>	<u>AVE</u>	<u>TD</u>	<u>LONG</u>	<u>PT</u>	<u>YDS</u>	<u>AVE</u>	<u>TD</u>	<u>LONG</u>
Wes Nixon	3	5	136	27.2	-	43(NEMO)	1	41	41.0	-	41(WSU)
Darryon White	3	1	16	16.0	-	16(ISU)	-	-	-	-	-
Randy McCue	3	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-
Gary Bridges	3	-	-	-	-	-	4	29	7.3	-	13(ISU)
Brian Newby	3	-	-	-	-	-	3	-4	-	-	-
Charlie Person	3	-	-	-	-	-	1	-7	-	-	-
Booker Brown	1	1	23	23.0	-	23(WSU)	-	-	-	-	-
Chris Nicholson	3	-	-	-	-	-	1	10	10.0	-	10(WSU)
EIU TOTALS	3	7	175	25.0	-	43(NEMO)	12	69	5.7	-	41(WSU)
OPPONENTS	3	11	227	20.6	-	32(WSU)	10	69	6.9	-	12(ISU)

<u>SCORING</u>	<u>G</u>	<u>TD</u>	<u>PAT/K</u>	<u>PAT/R-P</u>	<u>FG</u>	<u>SAF</u>	<u>POINTS</u>
Kevin Staple	3	3	-	-	-	-	18
Wes Nixon	3	2	-	-	-	-	12
Darryon White	3	1	-	-	-	-	6
Dave Strauch	3	-	7-9	-	1-3	-	10
Jeff Christensen	3	1	-	-	-	-	6
Dirk Androff	3	2	-	1	-	-	14
Jerry Wright	3	1	-	-	-	-	6
EIU TOTALS	3	10	7-9	1	1-3	-	72 (24 ppg.)
OPPONENTS	3	4	4-4	-	1-5	-	31 (10.3 ppg.)